

rewrite

By IzzyQueen12

Book 4: A Block and a Hard Place (Part III)



Chapters

Chapter 1: One Last Problem	3
Chapter 2: The Final Battle	16
Chapter 3: Loss of a Friend	36
Chapter 4: Dawn of a New Era	29
Epilogue	32
About the Author	37

•••• Chapter 1: One Last Problem ♣••••

After the long journey, the team finally arrived at Soren's fortress. The horses they lost earlier ended up right by the Farlands so they were able to use them to arrive at the Temple faster. The skies were dark purple in color, the atmosphere around them being dark and uninviting.

"Whoa.." Chris whimpered as their eyes landed on the familiar beast terrorizing Soren's fortress. Their plan seemingly worked like a charm. The WitherStorms stayed at the fortress, but they seem.. the same? There were little to no Endermen holding them back and their absence concerned the team.

Gabriel hopped from his horse, puzzled. "Shouldn't the Endermen have dismantled those things by now?" He said. "Or am I just confused?"

"It's not just you. Something's wrong," Ivor agreed, his eyes flashing in fright and worry as he went by his side.

"Jesse! Over here!" A familiar voice rang. The team shifted their gaze towards the source of the voice, spotting a familiar face with raven black hair and dark eyes waving at them from a nearby hill. He was smiling in relief, carefully hopping down to join his friends.

"Axel!" Jesse beamed. His eyes began to water slightly as he bolted towards him, rewarding him with a huge embrace. "Axel holy shit, you're okay!"

Axel staggered a little as Jesse hugged him. His smile widened as he wrapped his arms around him, glad that they made it back safely. "Of course! It would take more than those octopuses to take me down," he chuckled. When they separated, he placed his hands on his shoulder as Olivia, Jess and Nikki approached them, all with wide grins resting on their faces. "You guys made it!" He then noticed their new outfits and couldn't help but to stare in awe. "Nice freakin' armor, by the way. Makes you all a lot easier to look at."

"Good to see you too, Axel," Olivia giggled.

"I'm so glad you're safe, buddy," Jess smiled, however it faded as her expression turned serious.

"Do you still have the Amulet?"

"Safe and sound," Axel replied, pulling out the pulsing Amulet from his inventory. The indigo, blue, green and white bars were glowing brightly. "But that's not the problem!"

"Then what is?" Nikki pondered.

"The Endermen.. they're not angry enough!" Their friend revealed. "I mean, some of them are, but a lot of them are just standing around, moving blocks.. y'know, being Endermen."

"Blast!" Soren cursed in frustration

"They've kept the main WitherStorm busy, but one of the smaller ones started attacking us.. and Magnus ran off to fight that thing, all by himself!"

"He's fighting a WitherStorm.. alone?" Ivor repeated, his eyes widening in concern.

Axel nodded. "Yep. Kept saying something about paying for the mistakes of the past. Whatever that means," he said.

"If Magnus is fighting the WitherStorm then where's Maggie and Mini?" Nikki inquired, noticing that the two weren't present.

"Well-."

"Over here!" A familiar voice rang. The gang gazed over, spotting the young teens racing towards them.

"Geez. Nice armor," Maggie beamed, happy to see that their friends had made it back safely.

"Yeah, I didn't expect to see a fashion show," Mini grinned. "And it's really refreshing to see you too, Soren." The architect was surprised by this but instead of responding, he gazed away in remorse. When she noticed Chris, her eyes narrowed in concern. "Chris-! Are you okay?"

"I'm-.. fine," Chris half-lied. He desperately wanted to tell them about the truth. He knew it would greatly impact them, especially considering how much Maggie looks up to her older brother and how Mini already has a strained relationship with Soren but they had to know. Maybe not now but eventually.

"Maggie!" Nikki beamed, snapping him away from his thoughts. She threw her arms around the griefer, giving her a huge hug. She was glad that even after all the time they spent away from each other, she still managed to stay safe.

Maggie staggered a little as Nikki hugged her. She smiled warmly as she rested one arm around her waist and the other on the back of her head to return the embrace. "Hey, don't worry about me," she consoled as she rubbed her back. "I'm just glad you're okay."

"I was so worried.." Nikki sniffled.

"..me too.." the griefer murmured. She then pulled away from the hug, placing her hands on her shoulders. "But Nikki, Magnus is still in there. He told Mini and I to come out here and-.." She froze, unable to finish her sentence without her voice cracking. "A-And.. I don't know if he's okay or not.."

Nikki held her hand, gripping it tightly as she gave her a hopeful expression. "We'll make sure he's okay," she vowed. "I promise."

"If a fellow of the Order of the.. "Gabriel said, alerting their attention.

"Order of the Stone.." Jesse corrected.

"-is out there fighting.." the warrior continued as he bravely stepped forward. "..then I belong out there too."

"Gabriel, no! I told you, you're not who you think you are!" Soren protested. He stood by his friend, attempting to get him to back down. Of course, he was proud that he got some motivation, but he still can't remember any of his skills.

"My name.. is Gabriel the Warrior!" Gabriel declared. He pulled out his sword, holding it up in the air in ambition as he ran off. Running in the complete opposite direction from the WitherStorm.

"And.. he's running the wrong way," Axel commented.

"Oh, goodness' sakes.. I'm not letting that idiot get himself killed," Mini groaned. "You guys have it handled right? Go on without me." She then took off after the warrior. "Gabriel, wait! Come back!"

"Should we be concerned-?" Jess inquired, feeling a little worried that the two have gone off on their own.

"Yes, obviously!" Ivor snapped. "Luckily, they're running away from the WitherStorm so I don't think we have to worry that much. And Mini should be strong enough to keep him down." He then crossed his arms. "Unfortunately, Gabriel thinks he could single handedly take down that thing on his own."

"Without the Command Block, none of them stands a chance," Soren frowned. He wasn't just talking about Gabriel, but Mini and Magnus as well.

"Say what now?" Axel said in confusion, snapping his head towards the ginger. "The Command Block?"

"Why do they need the Command Block?" Maggie questioned. "Am I missing something here?"

The gang, except Maggie and Axel, shared worried and awkward expressions. "We'll explain later," Nikki said sheepishly.

"But trust me.. you don't want to know," Jesse added. Maggie and Axel frowned at this, but they didn't question the topic any longer.

"Hey, uhh.. you guys didn't check on Petra, did you?" Axel said, his eyes painted in concern and fear for their friend.

"No, we came straight here," Jess replied.

"She's still in that cave.. I hope she's alright.." Olivia lamented.

"She will be as long as we destroy the command block!" Jesse announced, determined to take down the Storms once and for all. They harmed enough people already. He's ready to bring an end to their tyranny.

"So what's the plan?" Maggie quiered, curious. "I mean, I know we gotta go in there, but... Do we just go for it, or what?"

"We need to find a way for me to use this!" Jesse responded, pulling his sword out for him to see. It was glowing brighter than before, way more than when they were still at the Farlands.

Axel's eyes widened in awe as he stared at the weapon. If his jaw could drop to the floor, it would have. "Whoa! That is, without question, the coolest thing I have ever, ever seen!" He gasped.

"Oh.. and we brought you guys some armor too!" Jess grinned, her and Nikki holding out armor pieces they saved for them so they better protect themselves. "Here." They handed their friends the armor. Axel and Maggie beamed, hastily trying on their new armor.

"NICE. I was feeling a little left out!" Axel grinned.

"This is so cool!" Maggie gushed. The armor saved for them seemed to fit them like a charm. Before they could say anything else, a vicious roar growled nearby. The team shared nervous looks before they shifted their gazes onto Soren's fortress that was dead ahead of them.

"Guys.." Jesse started, stepping forward to lead the team. "Let's go kick some command block butt." The team agreed, determined to finally take down the Storms once and for all.

The large group climbed up the mountain, stepping through the doors of the Fortress. The once lavish Fortress was now broken up and destroyed by the Storms. The loud roars and growls from the ferocious beasts filled their ears. Jess felt a feeling of terror coming over her. Despite their dire circumstances, she was glad that at least most of their friends were safe, away from the Storm's rampage.



"Does anyone see the Command Block?" Jesse inquired, speaking loud to make sure everyone heard him over all the ruckus.

"I don't think it's exposed!" Ivor responded. The brewer was right. The WitherStorm was still covering it up, protecting itself.

"We need to get more Endermen focused on the WitherStorm!" Nikki insisted.

"How do you make Endermen focus?" Axel asked, gazing at his friends. "I can't even make myself focus!"

"We shouldn't be here. None of this is going according to plan!" Soren said. His voice was quavering and he was stepping back in fright as he trembled. The team looked at him, shocked. What was he doing?

"Soren? What are you doing?" Chris pondered. "What's the matter?"

The architect was now a few feet away from them. His dark eyes were filled in terror. For a moment, he straightened his pose, gazing at his team. "I, uh.. you know, I-I've really enjoyed meeting you all, but.." he then turned his heel and ran off, away from the WitherStorm. The group stared at him in shock as he continued to flee.

"Soren?!" Maggie gasped.

"Did Soren just run away?" Olivia asked in disbelief.

"I can't believe this.." Chris grumbled, his shock quickly turning into anger.

"Soren, you coward! I can't believe you!" Jesse shouted, hoping that it was loud enough for the ginger to hear.

"I can," Ivor said, the team gazing at him in surprise. He then gazed over at the siblings. "You guys can handle things out here, right?"

"What?" Jess replied.

"I can't let him get himself killed!" The brewer went on. "Just get to the Command Block and destroy it!" He then took off after Soren, quickly disappearing from sight. "Soren!"

"So much for the mighty Order of the Stone," Olivia commented.

"You mean the Order of Liars," Nikki corrected in a huff.

"What's going on?" Maggie shifted her gaze towards her. "Okay, am I seriously missing something?"

"We'll-.. explain later," Chris sighed.

"I'd rather you explain everything now!"

"It doesn't matter. We have work to do," Jesse interrupted. Nikki agreed, however she felt bad about having to keep the truth away from her new friend. She felt like she had a right to know. Chris felt guilty as well. Maggie felt even more upset, but she tried to push it aside as Jesse led the team deeper into the fortress and out into the courtyard. The same place where Magnus and Ellegaard argued before separating.

Jesse stared at the many Endermen standing around before turning to his friends. "We need to get those Endermen to attack it!" He said. "How are we-.."

"Guys, look!" Jess interrupted. She pointed at one of the Endermen nearby with a tractor hovering above it. The creature roared in annoyance and once it was sucked up, it managed to teleport away. It reappeared on the beast, starting to pull blocks away from it.

"The tractor beam!" Olivia gasped. "That's it!"

"Looks like that's what we need to be doing!" Nikki grinned as she ran towards the Endermen, the rest of the team following behind her.

"Make them chase you into the tractor beam!" Jesse ordered as he ran. "Do anything! Just make sure it ends up inside the tractor beam. And hurry!"

He ran in front of a couple Endermen and with determination he hadn't had before, stared at them right in their eyes. Like expected, the Endermen hissed in anger just as the tractor beam began to hover over them, the Endermen being sucked into it. Jesse luckily ran out of the way before he was picked up as well.

Nikki meanwhile ran up to another Enderman, forcibly pulling the block it had from its grasp. "How do ya like that, you purple-eyed freak?" She smirked. The Enderman screeched in exasperation, but before it could do anything, she stepped out of the way just as the tractor beam lifted it into the air.



As she ran, she noticed the tractor beam was following her. She tried her best to outrun it, but the beam was moving too fast. It was gaining on her. She yelped in alarm and at the last minute, Zephyr grabbed her by the back of her armor and lifted her up in the air. It took a little more effort since she was now heavier due to the armor she has on, but he managed to accomplish that task. He flew her away from danger, the tractor beam picking up the small group of Endermen in front of her prior to being lifted up instead.

"Geez that was close.. thanks Zeph!" Nikki beamed. She gazed down at the few Endermen still on the ground before gazing up at the Storms. Their plan is working! Most of the Endermen were now attacking the Storms. "Yes! They're falling for it!"

As the team continued to push, lure and trick the Endermen into coming into the tractor beams, Zephyr flew back down, landing Nikki safely back on the ground. The teen wasn't finished however, gazing at the EnderBat in determination. "Zeph, this is going to be dangerous so listen. Can you get a water bucket and spray the Endermen in water?" She ordered. The EnderBat nodded his head, doing a quick salute before flying back into the air.

Jess nearby was panting slightly. Running around and luring the Endermen into the beams while making sure she and others don't get attacked is wearing off on her. As she wiped sweat from her forehead, she noticed Axel with a pile of snowballs in his arms. She stared at him, confused.

"Axel.. are those snowballs?" She questioned.

"Yeah, I found them near the cave! Here!" Axel handed a couple of snowballs to her before getting back to work.

Jess grinned before gazing at the Endermen nearby. "Alright, let's see how you like this!" She said. She threw a couple of them at some of the Endermen, who all teleported away before the snowball could hit them. As she did, a tractor beam headed right in her direction. "Uh oh.." she quickly ran out of the way just in time. The Endermen teleported right where she was, but ended up getting caught in the tractor beam as it hovered above them.

She continued to run, luring more Endermen into the beams. "That's right - come and get me!" She snickered. At this point, Zephyr returned with a water bucket, holding it by the handle. He poured the water out of the bucket as he flew above the Endermen. They all screeched in alarm, teleporting out of the way to avoid the liquid from touching them. As they did, most of them were caught by the tractor beam. Zephyr squeaked in joy, happily accomplishing his goal.

Jess was taken off guard by this, being careful to not get the water on her. When she noticed Reuben nearby, she grinned. "Reuben, can you give me a little help?!" She asked. The little piglet oinked in response, running behind an Enderman. Jess took this opportunity to push it, causing it to trip over Reuben. The Endermen screeched in surprise, but it didn't have time to think as it was caught in the tractor beam.

"Nice one, Reuben!" She congratulated before the two once again ran off.

After an hour of dodging tractor beams and getting the Endermen into the tractor beams, the team was left exhausted. Their plan seemed to work like a charm however. Their hard work has paid off. The Endermen were pulling away blocks from the WitherStorm. Axel and Olivia had already gone up some stairs that led them closer to the Storm.

"We're wasting time!" Maggie said as the rest of the team regrouped. "There's still some Endermen left down here. You guys go and dismantle that Storm."

"Mags, are you sure about this?" Nikki inquired, her eyes flashing in worry.

"We'll be fine," Chris assured her. "We can't continue to extend the Storm's lifespan. Lives have been lost. We can't lose anymore." His eyes were glossy, filled with pain and courage.

"But we can't just leave you here by yourselves!" Jess protested. "We'll find another way."

"There IS no other way!" Maggie replied. When she noticed Nikki hesitating, she sighed and placed her hands on her shoulders. "Nik, I know you're worried. But I've dealt with situations worse than this. I'll be fine, I promise."

Nikki took a deep breath before wrapping her arms around her. "...I know..." she muttered. Maggie slowly returned the embrace. Once they separated from the hug, Jesse sighed as he gazed over at Chris.

"You sure about this?" He inquired.

Chris nodded in response. "Good luck," he said. "We'll make sure everything's going well here. I'll look for Mini and Gabriel if they show up."

"Stay safe, K?" Jess frowned at the thought of leaving them behind. "We'll fix everything, I promise."

"We know you will," Maggie gave them an encouraging smile. With heavy hearts, the siblings ran up the stairs to join Axel and Olivia. Nikki gazed at the two for a moment before following her siblings and away from the Endermen and their new friends.

"Guys, look! It's working!" Olivia called as she pointed at a hole in the WitherStorm. It didn't seem too gigantic, but big enough for them to go inside of. The only problem is that the WitherStorm was too high up. How are they going to reach there?

"That hole's big enough to get inside of!" Jess observed.

"Now we just need to find you a way up," Axel figured.

"Or.. BUILD your way up!" Nikki suggested. "Everyone empty your pockets! Let's see.. I got some gunpowder, redstone and TNT!" She held out the items for the team to see.

"I've got redstone and cobblestone from Ivor's armory.." Jesse said.

"I have some wool, cobblestone, Redstone, and some TNT and gunpowder from BoomTown," Jess pulled out the needed items.

"I have fireworks and TNT from Boom Town," Axel revealed.

"I've got pistons.. repeaters.." Olivia spoke. "Some leftover slime from the maze.."

"Oh! And I still have that minecart!" Axel added.

"That's gotta be enough to make something, right?" Olivia urged. "We're close to an answer, I can feel it!"

"Guys check it out," Jess grinned. "We build a cobblestone ramp, lay down some track.."

Seeing where his sister was coming from, Jesse grinned. "Attach the TNT to the minecart, and launch it off the ramp like a rocket!" He finished.

"Heck yeah! I love that idea!" Axel rejoiced.

"We should probably put it high to avoid missing the hole," Nikki advised. "The Storm is all the way up there!"

"So what are we waiting for?" Olivia beamed. "Let's hurry up and-." She gasped, noticing a tractor beam heading right for them. "Look out!"

Everyone gasped, jumping out of the way before the tractor beam caught them. They thought they were lucky, that the tractor beam had missed them. That was until they heard a scream.. they all gazed back up, spotting Axel stuck in the tractor beam! He was now being lifted off the ground.

"Axel!" Jesse cried.

Olivia was the closest one to him and acting fast, she jumped up and grabbed his leg, attempting to pull him back down but ended up being pulled in the tractor beam as well. "Woah..!" She yelped.

"Don't worry, Olivia, I got you!" Jesse jumped up and grabbed her, but the same result happened once more.

"Okay, now I got you!" Nikki said, grabbing Jesse's leg. She did her best to pull them down, but she was too weak and ended up being caught inside as well. Even with Zephyr trying to pull them down as well, the beam was too strong.

Jess grabbed her ankle, trying her best to save her siblings and friends but she struggled. "I-.. I can't.. hold on.." she said through gritted teeth. She felt her grip falter as she felt herself being lifted from the ground slowly. Just when she thought all hope was lost, she heard a familiar, calming voice.

"I got you!"

Jess whipped her head around, spotting a familiar blonde running by her side. Three people, all brunettes, were with him. "Lukas!" She cried, her eyes almost starting to water in joy. "You're here!"

Lukas gave her an encouraging grin before bravely facing forward. "Ocelots.. distract that WitherStorm!" He ordered.

"Hey you!" Maya called. "Get a load of this!" She and the other ocelots, even Aiden, pulled out fireworks and fired them. The array of lights and noises made the Storm growl in frustration, distracting it long enough to let go of the friends that were stuck in the tractor beam. They all landed back onto solid ground in a crippled heap. They were shaken but overall unharmed.

"Lukas!" Jess ran up to the blonde, bombarding him in a tight embrace, laying her head on his chest. She was extremely happy and relieved to see him. "Thank you.."

Lukas staggered a little as she held him close, but he smiled warmly as he wrapped his arms around her, placing a hand on the back of her head. "I said that I'll find my way back to you, Jess," he consoled. "Anything for a friend."



"Lukas.." Jesse said, approaching him as the two separated. He crossed his arms, "You came back."

Lukas was a little nervous, but nothingness, tried to put on a brave place. "I had to," he said. "Do what you need to do. We'll distract it."

"Guys!" Axel called, alerting their attention. Olivia and Nikki had already gotten started on their machine. "Let's hurry up and build this thing!"

"Go!" Lukas urged as he hopped onto a platform to attract more attention to him.

The two siblings began to join their friends, but before he left, Jesse gazed at him. "Thank you, Lukas.." he said. The blonde was surprised by this, however he smiled, watching as they left before focusing his attention on distracting the Storm. The friends worked together to construct the rocket launcher. They worked swiftly while making sure each part worked. Finally, after placing the final block, they were finished.

"Okay! It's finished!" Jesse sighed in relief.

"Quick, climb on!" Olivia urged.

As Jesse climbed inside the minecart, he gazed over at his sisters and friends, who were staring at him with uncertainty. Despite this, they tried their best to give the best encouragement they could.

"Jesse.. I know you can do this," Olivia coaxed.

"So do I," Lukas agreed, gazing over at them for a moment before going back to distract the Storms.

"We all do!" Axel cheered.

"Thanks guys.." Jesse blushed, a wide smile stretching across his face. "It means a lot."

"Now go demolish that Command Block!"

Jesse hopped inside the minecart as it rolled down the ramp but unexpectedly, Jess and Nikki hopped inside as well. Jesse was surprised, but knowing the dangerous circumstances, he attempted to get them off. "Guys-! What are you-?" He tried to say, but was interrupted when Reuben hopped in his arms. "Reuben! This is no place for a-." It was too late. The minecart reached the end of the ramp, the TNT exploding, it launched all three of them including Reuben in the air. "-PIG!"

The siblings all screamed, Reuben oinking in alarm as they were thrown into the air. Nikki's prediction seemed to have worked well as they soared through the air and directly inside the hole. Their plan had worked.

Pitch black. Nikki only saw pitch black. She didn't know what happened to them exactly as soon as they entered inside the beast. Are they dead? Soft, familiar squeaks were heard nearby. It quickly grew louder until she felt something tugging at her bangs. She groaned a little, wondering what that may be. Or wait..

She slowly opened her emerald green eyes, noticing Zephyr in her face, tugging at her bangs with his claws in order to get her to wake. "Zeph..?" She murmured. She slowly lifted herself from the ground, confused. She then realized..

She quickly stood, her EnderBat flying above her. She gazed around the dark, creepy place she found herself in. The atmosphere had a pink tint and the dark purple ground beneath her felt squishy. Almost as if it was alive. She had to admit to herself that she was pretty freaked out, but she tried her best to plaster on a brave face.

"Zeph, where's Reuben, Jesse and Jess?" Nikki inquired. The EnderBat squeaked, leading her to where her siblings and pet pig were. They were very nearby and were still unconscious. Nikki ran up to them, shaking her sister awake before gazing over at her brother. "Guys. Guys-! Wake up!"

Jess was the first to wake. She groaned a little as she held her head. "My head.." she whined as Jesse began to awake from his slumber as well. "Where are we..?"

"Inside the WitherStorm. It turns out the plan worked," Nikki replied.

Immediately upon hearing this, Jesse quickly sat up. "What?" He said. He then crossed his arms. "You guys shouldn't have surprised me like that! Do you know what could've happened?" Reuben gazed down at the floor in guilt, oinking wistfully.

"Save the scolding until later," Nikki huffed. "It's too late anyways."

Jesse scowled, however when he noticed the.. frightening environment around them, his annoyance subsided. "On the other hand.. I'm kinda glad not to be alone right now," he shivered. "Just stay close, okay?"

"Am I the only one who feels like this place is alive?" Jess said in fright. "I guess that makes sense. We're inside a living being.. or something."

"Yeah, thanks for freaking us out even more, Jess," Nikki huffed, crossing her arms.

"Sorry."

"Guys, let's not," Jesse interrupted. Reuben sniffed a glowing mushroom, one that was purple in color. In the distance, they could see witherized zombies, skeletons, spiders and multiple hostile mobs aimlessly roaming around. Seeing them freaked the siblings out even more, but they tried their best to ignore them, pressing forward.



It seems to be a sort of path? Leading them either to the Command Block or to their demise. As they kept going, they noticed people stuck in the walls, their faces frozen in screams. Their eyes and mouths seemed to be glowing a bright purple color. They weren't witherized the same way as the hostile mobs they saw before. They were like.. statues. Part of the WitherStorm. It seems like the Storms not only feeds on blocks to make it stronger, it almost feeds on people.

"Whoa.. I recognize these people," Jesse murmured as he stared at the people stuck in such a state. A hard pit of disgust and uneasiness filled his stomach. So much so that he felt like he could vomit. He could tell his sisters felt the same way as well, the two of them staring at what seemed to be Nohr, the same girl they met in BoomTown.

As they walked, the ground began to shake. The siblings flinched then yelped as the ground rotated, making them fall and tumble onto the ground. As they recovered from their shock, Reuben lifted his gaze and spotted a cook. The same cook from EnderCon that scammed Jess for her sword and would've cut him up had Zephyr not saved them. He squealed in fright, running off in the opposite direction.

"Reuben! Wait up!" Jesse called as he ran after him.

Jess gazed over what he was looking at. Her eyes shot wide. "Wasn't that guy at EnderCon?" She recalled.

"C'mon!" Nikki urged. The sisters followed their older brother and pet pig through the cold environment. As soon as they caught up, the ground rumbled once more, once again rotating. The siblings yelped as they once again fell back onto the ground. As soon as they recovered however, they spotted something up ahead. The siblings stood, wanting to take a closer look but as soon as they did, the ground began to shake.

In a haste, they ran forward to avoid the rotation. Jesse landed on his face as they stopped, Reuben oinking in concern as he tried to get him back up.

"Woah.." Jess gasped, alerting Jesse's attention. He gazed at her before gazing over to see what she was looking at. In front of them was the Command Block surrounded by the WitherStorm's tentacles. This is it. They found it.

"There it is..." Nikki said.

Jesse pulled himself up from the ground, carefully approaching the Command Block. "This is it.." he murmured. "We meet again, Command Block." It was pulsing, producing a faded glow. Jesse pulled out his sword, ready to take it down. "Now it's time to destroy you.."

He ran up to the Command Block and slashed it with his sword. As soon as he did however, the Storm roared in pain, the tentacles that surrounded the block now raising up. Reuben yelped, oinking in alarm.

"What the-." Jesse couldn't finish his sentence, the tentacles swinging at him. The brunette ducked, dodging the attack before falling off the platform the Command Block was on. "What's happening?!"

"I think we made it angry.." Jess whimpered.

"You think?!" Nikki scowled. When she noticed a tentacle heading right for them, her eyes widened. "Tentacle!" Luckily, the siblings ducked the incoming danger, running away from it but only more seemed to appear. They tried to attack but the siblings managed to dodge them all. One came so close to getting them but Nikki managed to cut it off with her sword.

"Aww great..." Jesse groaned in frustration. It seems like the WitherStorm is trying to protect itself. "Listen, whatever happens, we have to destroy that Command Block! Y'all understand?" Reuben and Zephyr nodded in response.

"You bet!" Nikki said.

"Yeah, who said this was going to be easy?" Jess agreed. "Call me crazy, but I think the WitherStorm's trying to protect-." They froze, noticing a bunch of witherized mobs and another tentacle heading right for them. "Guys! Watch out!"

Jesse jumped forward, slicing off the tentacle in half with his sword. "Whoa! Why didn't I always carry an enchanted weapon?" He grinned.

"Right? These things are awesome!" Jess agreed, slicing another tentacle. Nikki climbed up a wall nearby before hopping down, slicing two skeletons in half. She then swung her sword, hitting a zombie that was heading in front of her.

Just as they were going to celebrate their victory, they heard a frightened oink nearby. The siblings quickly twisted their heads around, spotting the piglet ducking under another tentacle. Zephyr was trying to distract the tentacle away, trying his best to lure it away without getting hit himself.

"I'm coming, Reuben!" Jesse said, rushing by his side. He sliced the tentacle away before lifting the pig up with one arm. "Jess, you're right. It's doing everything it can to protect the Command Block." He then faced the Command Block. "Which means I have to do everything I can to destroy it." He climbed up the platform before running up to the pulsing block. "Awesome weapon, don't fail me now.." He sliced many of the tentacles by the block to get them out of the way before doing another blow on the Command Block.

The Storm hissed in pain before tilting over an 180° angle. The siblings screamed as they fell, Jesse and Jess landing on their back. Nikki's fall was softened as she landed on Jesse's stomach. All three of them groaned before they slowly pulled themselves back up.

"Holy moly!" Jesse yelped, gazing up at the Command Block that's now sitting above them. "This thing won't die!"

"Yeah, we've noticed," Jess replied. "We need to create a new plan."

"And I got one!" Nikki beamed. "Jesse, how about you climb up there and use one of those tentacles to swing toward the Command Block? I'm-.. not sure what we could do from down here, but.."

Jesse gazed at the tentacles. He had to admit that this plan Nikki had might indeed work. He climbed up one of the walls, but before he could go any closer, he faced his pet pig and sisters gazing at him from below. "Stay here, all of you. I mean it this time," he ordered. "There's no hostile mobs here. Just-.. don't run off this time, okay?"

The sisters and their pets nodded, watching in dismay as he climbed up the Storm. After a minute or so of climbing, he managed to find a ledge high enough to reach the tentacles. Before he could go however, the ledge began to move. His heart was racing as he gazed down at what he was standing on. It wasn't a ledge at all. It was a WitherStorm head!

The head lifted its gaze, kicking Jesse off it. He screamed as he trembled down, but his fall was broken as Zephyr grabbed him with his claws before gently landing him on the ground as his sisters and Reuben joined him. Jesse was shaken by this, but he quickly recovered before gazing back up at the head.

"Where did that come from?!" He yelped.

"Save your shock for later. Look!" Jess warned, pointing at a second head nearby, this one above the other one.

"I thought I told you guys to stay put!" Jesse then scolded.

"Please hold onto the lecture for now, Jesse," Nikki huffed. "I'm tired of waiting around." She then gasped, noticing a tractor beam heading their way. "Look!" She pointed at it, giving herself and her siblings enough time to duck out of the way. As they continued dodging the tractor beams, Nikki spotted a long, deep hallway next to her. The drop was so big, it was unlikely that anyone would survive the fall.

One of the tractor beams caught a sliced off tentacle, lifting it up into the air. Jess noticed this, an idea popping into her mind. "Jesse!" She called, gazing at her older brother nearby. "I know exactly how to get up there. The tractor beam! I could probably give you a boost!" Jesse gazed over at her before at the tractor beam. It was an interesting idea, but he hesitated. He didn't want to put his sisters in danger. Jess noticed this and went on. "I'll be fine. I promise!"

"You sure about this?" Jesse replied, rushing up to her.

Jess nodded her head. "Yeah. Now let's go!" She said. She shifted her gaze towards one of the heads and began to shout. "Hey you!" Reuben and Nikki were both alarmed by the idea, and even Zephyr seemed unsure. Jesse noticed this and did her best to comfort them.

"I'll be fine. I'm not gonna let it suck us all the way up.." he assured them. "Just close enough to do what me have to do."

"Just-.. be careful, okay?" Nikki whimpered. The two of them nodded their heads before facing their attention towards the beast.

"Bet you can't catch me!" Jess taunted. The tractor beam fell over her and she yelped as she was lifted into the air. Jesse went in after her. Jess held both his hands, keeping a tight grip and making sure to not let go. Once they were high enough, she flung Jesse higher up the beam, giving him the boost he needed.

The brunette slashed the eye, landing on its head. Zephyr soared up, catching Jess before she landed onto the ground and carried her up on the head as well. Jess sighed in relief, giving the EnderBat a small smile.

"Thanks, Zephyr!" She said.

"Jesse! Jess!" Nikki cried from down below. The siblings peeked down, spotting her carrying a terrified Reuben in her arms as she fled up to higher ground. Behind her were multiple creepers heading in her direction. The same witherized creepers they saw when escaping to Soren's fortress.

As fast as a bullet, Zephyr soared through the air towards the creepers and screeched loudly, flying past them as he did. The creepers, all affected by the loud noise either exploded where they were or went in different directions away from them.

"Nikki?! Reuben?!" Jesse called, both him and Jess desperately searching for their younger sister and pet pig.

"Over here!" The young teen boldly said, alerting their attention. She was safely on high ground, holding Reuben in her arms. "Just go destroy that Command Block!"

The two frowned, not wanting to leave them into danger. Jesse however tried to keep himself focused, waiting for the perfect moment to hop to the tentacles. As he did, Jess gazed below them and felt her stomach drop as she realized how high up they really were.

"Why'd I have to look down?" She whined.

"Jess, get to safer grounds, K? I'll handle this!" Jesse ordered. Jess nodded, watching as he leaped from the head they were standing on and onto a tentacle, gripping on it for dear life. He was so close to the broken Command Block. Just one more hit..

Jesse was just about to hit the Command Block again, however another tentacle grabbed him, causing him to drop his sword. He yelped as he was held upside down and soon began to panic as he realized he no longer had the sword on him.

"No no no no no no!" He exclaimed.

"Jesse!" Jess cried.

"I'm okay-! I just-.. need a minute.." he tried to assure her, but this did little to no effort to ease the alarming situation. Down below, Reuben hopped out of Nikki's arms, running over to the sword. Luckily, there weren't any monsters so they didn't have to worry about one of them attacking the piglet. Jesse noticed this and tried to call out to his younger sister and piglet. "Nikki! Reuben! I need your help! Remember how we used to play fetch?"

"Yeah, you were TOTALLY trash at throwing the ball!" Nikki responded.

"Not now, Nikki!" He huffed. Reuben stared at it inquisitively before picking it up by the handle in his mouth. Jesse grinned and tried to encourage the little pig. "That's it, that's it! Come on Reuben! I believe in you!" Reuben ran as fast as he could, gaining more confidence and determination as he went. Unfortunately for him, many of the monsters around spotted him with the weapon and began to follow him.

"Nikki! Look out!" Jess warned, spotting multiple monsters heading right for them.

Nikki swiftly joined the piglet, holding out her sword to protect him. "Go without me, Reuben! We'll handle this," she said. "Zeph, I think I need a little help!" Acting fast, Zephyr dived down, screeching loudly as he flew past them. The monsters all covered their ears in protest, trying to protect their ear drums. Nikki took this opportunity to take down several of them at a time. Zephyr picked up a skeleton with his claws, tossing it at a group of skeletons, which caused them all to collapse and disappear in a puff of smoke.

Once they've been dealt with, the two follow after Reuben. The piglet was on high grounds, almost to where Jesse was. Jesse was desperately trying to grip on, avoiding getting eaten by the head that was dangerously close to him. Jess expeditiously leaped over, at first gripping onto one of the tentacles before leaping on top of the other hand. She gripped her sword tightly and stabbed it on its eye. The monster roared in pain by this, distracting it long enough so that Reuben could reach them.

Zephyr took this opportunity to lift Nikki up into the air, landing her on the ground Reuben was. Nikki quickly joined the pig as he leaped onto one of the tentacles.

"Jump! I'll catch you!" Jesse called.

"It's too far! Do you think I could pass it down?" Nikki replied. Jesse gazed down at the ground for a moment before gazing back up at them and nodded. Nikki took the sword from Reuben, aiming correctly before tossing it down. Time seemed to slow as the sword flew through the air. Everyone felt tense as they watched, but they all breathed a heavy sigh of relief as Jesse grabbed it.

"You did it! I knew I could count on you!" Jesse rejoiced. Reuben oinked in pride as stared at the Command Block, filled with ambition and determination. "Alright. It's time to put an end to this thing once and for-." He was interrupted when the monster head Jess was standing on bites Reuben's body. The piglet yelped in pain as he was ripped away from his owners. "Reuben!"

"Hold on, buddy!" Nikki said, keeping a tight grip on the piglet. She tried her best to save the piglet, her siblings watching in horror at the scene happening right in front of them.

"Reuben, hold on!" Jess cried, once again stabbing the head's eye but it won't budge. She then tried to stab it's other areas but still, it led to the same result. She was just about to hop down to the closest tentacle, attempting to help her sister save their pet when Zephyr flew forward, screeching loudly. The head was caught off guard by this, letting go of the piglet.

Reuben was saved. But unluckily for them, the tentacle they were standing on withdrew. Jess fell back as the monster opened its mouth, but she quickly stood, her eyes shooting wide once she heard the sounds of frightened oinks and screams. She peeked over to see Nikki and Reuben tumbling down towards the giant hole.

"NIKKI! REUBEN!" Jesse and Jess both cried as they watched in horror. Zephyr hastily dived down, grabbing Nikki with his claws. Nikki yelped, gazing up to see her pet EnderBat desperately trying to fly despite struggling to do so. She still had a grip on Reuben, the piglet oinking in terror and pain as Zephyr tried his best to fly them to safer grounds, however it was obvious that the EnderBat couldn't carry the both of them.

"Reuben, just hang on.. a little longer!" Nikki groaned, trying to keep herself calm. The ground below them was now filled with skeletons, all of them aiming their bows and arrows at them and shooting. The arrows luckily didn't hit them. Reuben gazed at Nikki with hopeful eyes. They weren't both going to survive. One of them has to let go. He oinked encouragingly and realizing the sacrifice he was going to make, Nikki's eyes shot wide.

"Reuben, no-! You can't do this, I-.. we'll find another way, please don't-.." the young teen stammered, tears now falling down her cheeks. Reuben closed his eyes as he moved away from her grasp, plummeting down through the hole before disappearing completely. He was gone.

"REUBEN! NO!" The siblings wailed as they watched their pet pig disappear. The piglet's distant oinks were the last thing they heard from him. All three of them were now uncontrollably sobbing. It wasn't fair. Jesse's sadness quickly subsided to rage. In a scream of anger, he stabbed

the Command Block one last time. The block was shattered immediately. As the block shattered, the sword got destroyed alongside with it.

Once its lifeforce was destroyed, the WitherStorm deactivated, going numb. The siblings screamed as they plummeted downwards, falling through the hole as the Storm began to break apart. Their screams echoed through the walls as they screamed.

•••• Chapter 3: The Loss of a Friend ❖••••

Their fall was softened as they landed in a body of water. The loud splashes of the remains of the WitherStorm filled their ears. Jesse swam up above the surface, taking in a breath of air as the comforting sounds of birds chirping were heard. Jess and Nikki swam up as well, watching the new scenery around them.

The sky was no longer purple, the warm blue color returned as the sun raised back into the sky. Nature began to grow back as everyone, including mobs all got up, clearing away from the trance they were once under. The Endermen watched as the sun shined brightly and screeched in protest as they teleported away. It felt as though the world had just woken up from a depressing nightmare. This time, it will stay that way.

It almost felt strange to them, yet.. comforting. All three of them had to squint a little, adjusting to the sunlight. They don't know how long they've been trapped inside the Storm. Or how long they've been dealing with the Storm anyways. What's important now is that it is gone. Jesse felt his pockets. The sword wasn't there. It wasn't a dream. It seems like that once the WitherStorm was destroyed, the super weapon was destroyed alongside with it.

"There you are!" A familiar voice rang. The siblings shifted their gaze over, spotting Olivia, Axel, Chris and Maggie standing in front of the water source they were in.

"Holy shit! Are you guys alright?" Axel inquired, his eyes filled with worry.

"Are you guys really okay-?" Maggie questioned, worried. "You guys look.. shaken up."

Jess realized the body of water they were in. It was the same body of water she and Lukas found themselves in when escaping the Endermen when they first ventured inside Soren's fortress. The siblings were all shaken, but when he remembered the events that went down, Jesse immediately scrambled out of the pool.

"Reuben! Where's Reuben?!" He panted.

"I thought he was with you!" Olivia replied.

Lukas ran up to the siblings, giving Jess a tight embrace. "You did it! You guys actually did it!" He rejoiced. The brunette returned the embrace with one hand, however the amount of shock she was in prevented her from celebrating. Lukas noticed this, frowning in concern. "What's the matter?" Before anyone could respond, they heard soft oinks of pain nearby. Everyone froze, sharing anxious expressions.

"Hey.. do you guys hear something?" Axel inquired.

Recognizing where the oinks might be coming from, the siblings bolted forward. The rest of the team followed behind. As they gazed around, they noticed Reuben curled up on the ground, covered in blood and bruises. He was badly hurt from when the Storm bit down on him and the pain increased due to fall damage. Zephyr stood by his side, squeaking sorrowfully as he gently rubbed his wing against him, giving him the comfort he needed.

When he noticed their owners approaching them, he flew up and squeaked in remorse, saddened that he couldn't help save him. "It's okay, Zeph.." Nikki assured him as he rested on her shoulder. "It's not your fault.."

"Oh Reuben.." Jess murmured, clapping her hands over her mouth as she tried her best to not break down in tears.

"Oh no.." Olivia muttered. She hugged Axel tightly, her eyes glossy as the big guy gently patted her back. He was unable to watch the scene so he simply stared down at the ground.

"Reuben.." Jesse sniffled. "Are you okay, buddy..?" The piglet whimpered in response. Jesse tried his best to keep his composure, biting his lip. He couldn't bare to see him like this. "Come on Reuben. Say something.."

"..Reuben.." Nikki sniveled as she kneeled to his height. "You're a hero. You know that?" Despite tears rolling down her cheeks, she forced herself to smile. "You just helped save the world.. you just helped save us, I-.." Reuben tried to lift himself off the ground, however the pain was too much and he collapsed back onto the ground.

"R-Reuben, don't do this to me.. to us.." Jess pleaded, losing her composure. Tears streamed down her cheeks as she wailed. "We need you, boy.. I wouldn't know what we would do without.." Nikki gave her a tight embrace, allowing for her older sister to cry on her shoulder.

Jesse sniffled, tears falling from his eyelids. Reuben was one of the only ones who cared. One of the last ones who gave him comfort, even when things were rough. He was there through thick and thin. Now, he was covered in blood and bruises, unable to even stand. Despite this, he forced himself to smile. Smiling hurt like hell, but he didn't falter.

"It's okay, boy. I'm here.. we're here.." he lamented, gently placing a hand on him to give him some comfort, being careful not to accidentally hurt him. "And tomorrow, we could play your favorite game. I'll give you all the carrots you want. I'll be there. I love you forever, Reuben. Never forget that."

The piglet gave him a small, hopeful smile as his vision started the blur. He was the last thing he saw as he slowly closed his eyes, collapsing on the ground as he became nothing more but a bloody porkchop on the earth. The siblings grieved as they held each other close, their greatest friend forever gone.

"I am.. I am so sorry.." Lukas consoled, placing a hand on Jess' shoulder.

"He was a great pig.." Maggie added, rubbing Nikki's back gently.

Multiple people gathered around the grieving siblings. Griefers, redstonians.. Everyone freed from the WitherStorm gathered around to pay their respects and share the legacy of the little piglet..

· • • • • Chapter 4: Dawn of a New Era ♣ • • • •

A week has passed since the WitherStorm's defeat. A lot of rebuilding had to be done, along with saving those who were affected by the Storm and hosting funerals for the deceased. The friends stood in front of Reuben's memorial. The siblings each stared at Reuben's final resting place before they were distracted by the loud cheers erupted by a large crowd.

Jesse gazed over at Axel, who gave him a concerned expression before he took a deep breath. He pressed forward towards the stage, his sisters and friends following behind him. Although they were saddened that Ellegaard and Reuben aren't here to join them, they know their legacies will live on. Lukas stood in the crowd, his friends behind him. Jesse and Jess both spotted him, the blonde nodding as he grinned. The two returned the smile as they climbed onto the stage and faced the crowd.

"People used to look at ME like that once, Jess," a deep voice spoke. Jess flinched slightly, noticing Gabriel standing next to her. He had a remorseful expression on his face. "Having my memory restored has been both a blessing, and a curse.." He came a little closer, continuing in a whisper. "Perhaps they deserve to know the truth about the Order. All those lies we told them.. Maybe I should finally come clean."

"You're right," Jess agreed, giving him a serious expression. "They deserve to know."

Gabriel nodded before stepping forward, raising his hand to silence the crowd. Once everyone was listening, he began to speak. "We all owe a great debt to Jesse, Jess and their friends. But I owe a debt to you people, as well. Which is why.. There is something I wanna tell you. About the Order." The crowd was confused, wondering what he meant. Ivor watched attentively, placing his hands on his hips.

Gabriel gazed over at Jess, who nodded her head encouragingly. "The Order of the Stone.. is not what you all believed. We were. frauds. We used the command block to falsify our legacy!" The warrior revealed. The crowd gasped in shock once the secret was revealed. Gabriel gazed over at Ivor, who nodded in approval. This showed him that he did the right thing. He then faced the crowd and continued. "We were no heroes. So it is time for the world to celebrate new heroes! Real heroes!"

The crowd glared at them, both in disgust and distain. Gabriel stared at the ground in sorrow, but he knew it had to be done. Jess went by his side, patting his back gently. The warrior gave her a small nod before the Order then stepped off the stage, allowing for their new heroes to speak. Jesse stepped forward. He at first didn't know what to say, but smiled slightly as he faced the crowd.

"Thank you! Thank you, everyone! I know you think we're up here because we saved the world or something. But the truth is, we didn't do it alone. None of us did. Far from it," he addressed. "You see, we have our friends with us. There was Olivia.. Axel.. Petra.."

"Lukas.." Jess added. She smiled at the blonde in the crowd, who returned the same smile.

"They stood by our sides, right from the start," Jesse continued. "Even when I thought things would be hopeless, my sisters and my friends made sure everything was okay. Well.. and they made fun of me when I deserved it." He chuckled. "But that's just how we are."

"Dang right we are," Axel grinned.

"It's crazy to think we started out in a treehouse.. and now we've been to some of the weirdest places in the world!" Jess added. "I mean come on.. we went to the Far Lands! There was this gigantic wall, and this huuuuge maze and a model of the Ender Dragon that.." She stopped, giggling. "Well, you just had to be there."

"But when all was said and done.. you know what REALLY mattered?" Nikki spoke up. She gazed over at Jesse, giving him the signal.

Jesse nodded before facing the crowd once more. "My hero, Reuben the pig. He may have seemed like just a pig to most people.. but he was so much more. And at the end of the day, he saved us all," he revealed, his eyes flashing in sadness. "I'll miss you, boy. FOR REUBEN!" The crowd rejoiced, celebrating in memory of the piglet.

Once the speech was finished, Gabriel nodded his head at Magnus. The rouge stepped back onto the stage, pulling out a beautiful black, purple and pink crystal that resembled a star. "This is the Nether Star that dropped when the Wither Storm was destroyed," he announced proudly. "You wanna do the honors?"

Jesse took the Nether Star. He stared at it before gazing over at his sisters, who seemed a little sad. He smiled warmly, holding out the Nether Star. "Let's do this together," he said. He watched as their faces both lit up and together, the siblings carried the star towards the beacon pedestal.

"Oh man, this is gonna be so cool.." Lukas gushed.

The siblings together placed the Star on the blue pedestal. As soon as it was placed, the Nether star spun rapidly until the beacon was activated, a bunch of coloured lights illuminate into the sky. Everyone cheered as they stared at the lights in awe.

Gabriel stepped back onto the stage, holding the Amulet high in the air for everyone to see. "My friends.. I am now pleased to introduce to you.." He handed the amulet to Jesse before facing the crowd. "The new Order of the Stone!"

Jesse waved the Amulet in the air in triumph as the siblings walked back onto the stage. The siblings and friends grinned as the crowd roared in celebration. Finally, the war is over. It's time for a new era of heroes.

And so it was that a new Order of the Stone was born. One whose adventures were only just beginning. For though the world had been saved, and the command block destroyed. There are many more worlds than just this one..



The group stood in front of a massive statue. One that depicted Ellegaard. It's been three days since Reuben's funeral and the friends, including the old Order, had all traveled to Redstonia to attend Ellegaard's funeral. The statue is supposed to be a memorial to the fallen engineer. Although the secret's been out, many people still wanted to show their respects.

Magnus stood in front of the statue. He stared at it in sorrow before placing down a bouquet of Poinsettias. It was her favorite kind. "I'm sorry, Ellie.." he murmured, his eyes glossy. Despite all the hardships they went through, he still cared for her. Even after.. He wished he had the chance to tell her that even after everything that happened, he still loved her.

"Magnus, I-.." Gabriel started, but froze when he noticed the broken rouge. He sighed, wrapping an arm around him. "It's not your fault.." Magnus wanted to answer, but couldn't as he laid his head on his shoulder, tears escaping from his eyes.

Nearby, Mini, Maggie and Chris stood next to each other, all three of them silent. Chris stared at the statue from a distance. He didn't know what to feel. He just felt.. numb. Maggie and Mini didn't know what to say either. With the secret revealed, it affected both of them greatly.

"Are.. you okay..?" Maggie spoke, breaking the silence. She was giving Chris a concerned expression.

Mini gazed at her before gazing back at Chris. "Yeah.. I know how you must feel after.. y'know.." she murmured.

"I'll be fine," Chris sighed. He had his arms crossed, gazing down at the grass. "There's a lot that needs to be done. I-.. think I'm going to put off adventuring for a while. Just to.. help with rebuilding. Maybe clear my mind."



Mini and Maggie shared worried looks. They knew their friend was going through a lot, but they agree that it's probably for the best.

"It's okay, Chris! We'll be here if ya need us," Maggie assured him.

"Take your time," Mini consoled.

Chris gave them sad smiles. "Thank you.." he murmured. He then scratched the back of his neck nervously. "I-.. think I should get going now. I'll see you both around." Maggie and Mini both waved goodbye as he left and once he was gone, silence loomed over them once more.

"How you're keeping up..?" Maggie inquired, breaking the silence.

"I dunno.." Mini admitted. "Mags, I-.. I just can't help but to feel alone. I mean, yeah I'm glad Ivor's back and all but-.. I can't help but to still miss Soren. We barely had a chance to actually catch up during the WitherStorm. Partially my fault." She sighed, gazing over at her. "Even after all he did, he's still my father. I-.. I wish he was still here.."

"Hey, it's okay.." Maggie comforted, giving her friend a tight embrace. "Mini, I think ya should put aside adventure for a while."

"...I wish it was that easy.." Mini frowned, separating from the hug. "I always live for the adventure and thrill." She then gazed up at her. "What about you-? Do you still talk to Magnus after-.. y'know."

"Things haven't exactly been the same between us," Maggie revealed. "Magnus' trying his best but.. I can't look at him the same way. It feels like one of those things you really believe in just for it to be a lie. Like-.. Santa Claus.. or something." She crossed her arms. "I'm trying to get in contact with my sister-."

"Megan-?"

"..yeah. Haven't seen her since the WitherStorm."

Mini wrapped an arm around her shoulder. "She'll be okay," she consoled. "She's strong."

Maggie sighed as she laid her head on her shoulder, leaning against her for comfort. "..! know.." she murmured.

Meanwhile, the New Order were standing nearby. They have been busy the last couple of days, helping as many people as they can. Despite this, they managed to save some time for adventure, yet it didn't take away from the gloomy atmosphere. Olivia sighed, gazing up at the statue of her longtime idol before facing her friends.

"Y'know. I wish things hadn't ended the way they did," she admitted.

"Me too," Jess agreed, her voice filled with emotion. Nikki didn't respond, leaning against their older brother as Zephyr sat on her head.

"We should probably get back to work," Olivia said. "There's still a lot of people who are homeless from the WitherStorm. So many funerals to be held. So many people who need assistance." She crossed her arms. "As the New Order, we should help people in need."

"Liv's got a point," Petra agreed. She then groaned a bit as she held her arm. "I wish I could help more but I really want to rest up a little more." Despite the Wither Sickness going away, she still needed some time to fully recover.

"Yeah, I've been wanting to rest too," Axel agreed. "All this WitherStorm stuff has worn me out."

"Take your take, K?" Jesse said. "I believe we all need some time to rest." His friends all nodded as they went off in different directions. All except Lukas, who waited for them all to leave before turning to face towards the siblings.

"Thanks again for inviting me, Jess," he sheepishly said, scratching the back of his neck. "I'm going to try to fix my broken friendships.. I'll talk to Aiden. I don't know where this'll go but.. I have to try."

Jess gazed at him in concern. "Are you sure, Lukas?" She inquired.

The blonde nodded. "It's necessary," he assured her. "After all we've been through together, I know he might feel a little bitter knowing that I was with you guys the entire time. And Jesse, I-.." He faced the brunette. "I can't change the past. But I promise, I'll make things up. Just please... give me a chance this time."

Jesse stared at him before sighing. "We'll see what happens in the future," he replied. "Just take care of yourself. K?" The blonde nodded before taking his leave.

The siblings stood there together in silence. This silence was broken by Nikki yawning. The young teen was exhausted, but to be fair, they all were. Jesse was just about to say "let's go" when he felt a hand on his shoulder. He flinched slightly, shifting his gaze over to see who it was. His eyes widened as he realized who it was.

Behind him were two people; one who looked to be around the age of eighteen while the other seemed to be around the age of ten. The eighteen year old had light brown skin, long messy curly dark brown hair tied in a low ponytail and bright emerald green eyes. The ten year old was albino, having pale skin and pale blonde hair, almost white with sparkling brown eyes. She was holding a fluffy white stuffed toy bunny in her arms.



Jesse's eyes widened as he recognized the two, tears almost beginning to fall down his cheeks. Before either of them could say anything, he gave the eighteen year old a huge hug. Jess and Nikki gazed over at them, their eyes widening in relief and shock. Just like Jesse, they gave them a huge hug, glad to see them once more.

"Lily! Velvet!" You're both alive!" Jess cried.

"Where were you guys this entire time-?!" Nikki gasped. "And how did you find us?!"

"Believe it or not, we kinda had our own Wither problem," Velvet explained sheepishly, crossing his arms. "As soon as we came over, we heard everything that happened." His eyes then gazed at them in concern. "Sorry that we missed everything. Are you guys okay-?"

"Pfft, we're fine!" Jess assured him.

"Yeah, you should've seen us! We were acting all cool and we went to all sorts of places," Nikki listed. "C'mon, we have SO much to talk about!" She then giggled. "You won't believe what happened! We went to a shit ton of places, we met a shit ton of people and-."

"Language!" Jesse scolded.

Nikki rolled her eyes in response. "Whatever you say, Captain Jesse," she teased. As they spoke, Lily gazed around them. Despite everyone being here, she noticed that something or.. someone was missing.

"Where's Reuben?" She inquired. Velvet was at first confused about what she meant, but when he noticed the little piglet was absent, he began to grow concerned, especially noticing how their other siblings all paled in response, sharing melancholy expressions.

"That's-.. one of the things we have to talk about.." Jess finally admitted. Velvet and Lily were both perplexed about what she meant. They had a lot of catching up to do. When she began to head off down the streets, her siblings followed after her. Finally, they were reunited. Even after their losses, after the different hardships they went through they were finally together. A new era of heroes had just begun..

•••• About the Author \$••••

Hello, I'm Isabella, Izzy for short! Just your average teen making fanfics about her favorite shows and stuff LOL. I'm in a shit ton of fandoms and I'm interested in starting new fanfics outside of MCSM. This includes:



I also ship a shit ton of stuff like McSawyer, Jesstra, Jetra, Lukesse, Sashannarcy, Lumity, Raeda, Huntlow, Klance, Rarijack, Flutterdash, Twipie + Sunset. A lot more that I'm too lazy to list lol. I also include OC's.. if that's fine with any of y'all, I love adding OC's (1) I hope y'all enjoy my stories and have a wonderful day:D

https://www.wattpad.com/user/IzzyQueen12